FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 MAY 1985

Lebanon

Violent clashes erupted across the Beirut contact lines over the weekend causing over 30 casualties, according to Beirut radio. The victims included a number of officials at Beirut airport where shells landed late on 5 May. From the Christian side, Voice of Lebanon radio accused Muslim gunmen of exacerbating the security situation and of attempting to advance toward the eastern area.

Earlier, Jerusalem radio announced that Christian refugees from southern Lebanon were ferried from Haifa to Beirut. As for Israel's security arrangements along the Lebanese border, *HA'ARETZ disclosed that the IDF is digging a trench as part* of a computer-controlled defense system costing around $80,000 per meter. The Israeli paper also reported that a Syrian unit has been incorporated into the Lebanese Army brigade that deployed in the western Al-Biqa' following the IDF withdrawal.

PLO

Responding to a question about the USSR's reported refusal to receive a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation, PLO Political Department chief Faruq Qaddumi told TAP 4 May that a PLO delegation will visit the Soviet Union shortly. A PLO official cited by INA announced the same day that a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation will leave for the PRC at the end of the coming week. Meanwhile, a PLO spokesman deplored Britain's refusal to receive any PLO official representative, contending that this represents a clear and totai retreat of British policy toward the PLO, WAKH reported.

As for the PLO's Relations with Jordan, Jerusalem radio's Arabic service claimed that King Husayn has warned the PLO leaders against planning attacks against Israel in Amman. The radio linked this with the PLO's unsuccessful attempt to attack Israel from the sea on 20 April.

Israel-Egypt

Israel's Inner Cabinet approved the mid-week departure of a three-member Israeli team for talks in Cairo "to try and solve all the problems between Israel and Egypt," IDF radio stated. According to Jerusalem radio, the delegation will try to arrange a mutually acceptable agenda for a summit between Prime Minister Shim'on Peres and Egyptian President Husni Mubarak. The radio cited Egyptian press reports that the nearest possible date for such a summit is in July. Meanwhile, negotiations on Tabah are expected to resume in Ismailia "next weekend" according to a 4 May *AKHBAR AL-YAWM* report cited by MENA. The paper stated that Egypt's position will depend on whether there is a "real shift" in the Israeli stand.

Egyptian Law

Moderate Muslims triumphed over militants during the 4 May parliamentary debate over the introduction of Shari'a law in Egypt, AFP reported.

Sudan

Transitional Military Council (TMC) Chairman General 'Abd al-Rahman Siwar al-Dhahab and Prime Minister al-Jazuli Daf'allah met with visiting Libyan delegation leader Major 'Abd al-Salam Jallud on 5 May for talks to promote bilateral ties, SUNA disclosed. The prime minister later noted that his talks with Jallud did not touch on Libyan contacts with Sudanese People's Liberation Army leader Colonel John Garang. However, Libyan Foreign Liaison Secretary 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, who is accompanying Jallud, stated that Libya has asked Garang to join forces with the Sudanese "popular revolution" and that Libya has not supported any "anti-Sudan" activities since President Ja'far Numayri's overthrow. Commenting on his talks on Chad with the Libyan delegation, the TMC deputy chairman said that instability in Chad automatically affects Sudan in a "negative manner," the agency also reported. Meanwhile, Siwar al-Dhahab reaffirmed Sudanese support for the Palestinian people during a meeting with visiting PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, SUNA stated.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iraqi Armed Forces communique carried by Voice of the Masses announced that the Air Force "accurately and effectively hit" two very large maritime targets near Khark Island 5 May. Earlier, Iraq denied Iranian claims that Iraqi aircraft were responsible for the 2 May attacks against Liberian and Japanese tankers, contending that Iran was responsible, INA reported citing an Iraqi military spokesman. Manama *GULF DAILY NEWS* also reported that Iranian jets hit the tankers in what "appeared to be a retaliatory strike" for Iraqi raids. Meanwhile, a Turkish Foreign Ministry official said that the 1 May Iraqi attack against a Turkish tanker outside the restricted zone "violates the principle of free traffic" and added that the incident was protested to the Iraqi Government, Ankara radio observed. Addressing the topic of U.S. naval units stationed in the Persian Gulf, Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i stated in a speech cited by Tehran radio that "Iran will not tolerate such a challenge."

Kuwait

The Kuwaiti minister of justice and legal administrative affairs submitted his resignation 5 May after a parliamentary investigation into his involvement in the Kuwait stock exchange "crisis," KUNA reported.

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Security Force Operations in Helmand, Konduz

LD051907 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] In line with the elimination of the counterrevolutionary elements, and as a result of a successful operation by the country's vigilant security forces in the Dahaneh-ye Ghowri area, a number of rebels belonging to the criminal Mawlawi Khalis band were crushed. Some 200 assorted weapons, a large quantity of ammunition, 2 mortars, and 5 DShK's were seized.

According to another report, as a result of a recent operation in the villages of Kajaki District, Helmand Province, a number of rebels belonging to the so-called Eslami band were crushed and a number of them were captured.

Some 51 assorted weapons, a quantity of ammunition, a DShK, and 9 rocket launcher were seized. The security forces also destroyed 2 mortars, 3 rocket launchers, a DShK, 5 assorted weapons, 4 ammunition dumps, and a truck laden with fatal weapons and equipment that had been brought to disrupt the compatriots' peaceful life.

Also as a result of an operation, which was mounted in the Mula Sardar, Laghman, Tofa Dar villages, Konduz Province and in the Emam Saheb District, Ghulam Hosayn, belonging to the Harakat band and 29 members were crushed; 2 were captured and their weapons and ammunition seized.

Voice of Afghanistan on Mujahidin Successes

Nimroz, Parwan, Wardak Provinces

LD032224 (Clandestine) Voice of Afghanistan in Dari 1130 GMT 1 May 85

[Excerpt] A report from Nimroz Province says that recently during heavy clashes between the (?units) of the 4th Border Brigade of Nimroz Province and the fighters of Islam, 1 jeep and 2 transport vehicles of the above-mentioned brigade were set on fire, 4 mercenaries were killed, and 3 officers and 14 sold-out militiamen were wounded.

Our correspondent reports from Parwan Province that during brave attacks by the self-sacrificing forces of Islam on Soviet supply caravans, six tankers and transport vehicles together with the loads they were carrying were destroyed, a number of their traitor and infidel servants were killed and large numbers of these enemies of humanity were wounded.

A report from Maydan Shahr, the capital of Wardak Province, says that during an attack by the faithful mujahidin on the forces of the Soviets and their servants in Maydan region, two transport vehicles of the Soviets were set on fire, five invading Soviet soldiers and four servants were killed and six Soviets and four servants were wounded.

The report adds that in the course of this attack, three Muslim soldiers together with their armaments joined the ranks of their mujahidin brothers.

Qandahar, Paktia, Nangarhar

LD032239 (Clandestine) Voice of Afghanistan in Dari 1130 GMT 2 May 85

[Text] Our correspondents report from various part of the country that as a result of fatal blows by the courageous mujahidin of Islam on the Soviet and servant forces, the infidel forces are facing defeat, and every day groups of Muslim soldiers who are captives of the military units of the enemy are breaking from the ranks of blasphemy and are joining their mujahid brothers:

Qandahar: Our correspondent reports from Qandahar Province that one Soviet helicopter carrying explosives was hit by the antiaircraft machineguns of the forces of Islam and exploded in midair. The report adds that one day before this incident, one MI-24 Russian helicopter was downed in Kajaki area by the antiaircraft weapons of the faithful mujahidin. The helicopter was engaged in bombing.

Another report from Qandahar says that as a result of an attack by the forces of Islam on the headquarters of the Qandahar air defense forces, the air defense installations were heavily damaged, 4 guard soldiers of the headquarters were killed and about 30 of the traitorous soldiers were wounded.

Paktia: According to a report from Khowst region, Paktia Province, recently two soldiers of the Nadershah Kot Regiment and one officer and three soldiers of the border brigade were killed. On the same day 20 Muslim soldiers of the 666th Commando Regiment and 2 soldiers of the transport battalion left the shameful ranks of communism and joined the ranks of the faithful mujahidin. The report adds that one policeman was killed in Zazi Maydan during an attack by the faithful mujahidin and three were severely wounded. On the same date, a number of the servant soldiers of the 8th Border Regiment were also killed or wounded.

Nangarhar: Our correspondent reports from Nangarhar Province that the guardians of Islam recently courageously attacked the Paynda Khak post which resulted in heavy enemy property loss and the capture of two armed NCO's and eight traitor militiamen. On the same date, 10 Muslim soldiers of the 2nd Guard Battalion, who had been taken by force to that unit, joined the united ranks of the forces of Islam.

Farah: It has been reported from Farah Province that one [word indistinct] of the invader Soviets was destroyed during an attack by the faithful mujahidin and four invading Soviets were killed or wounded. The report adds that four traitor militiamen of the 6th Tribal Battalion were severely wounded during an attack by the faithful mujahidin.

Battles in 5 Provinces

LD032259 (Clandestine) Voice of Afghanistan in Dari 1130 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] Konar — According to a report from (Sawki) District, Konar Province, the faithful mujahidin attacked the mercenary Soviet forces in (Sawki) District. As a result of the intense battle that ensued, two vehicles and four fuel tankers of the Soviet

forces were set ablaze as a result of the rocket fire of the self-sacrificing forces of Islam, and more than 40 sold-out servants of the Soviets were killed.

According to another report from the center of Konar Province, two helicopters that had landed in the area of Asadabad District were destroyed as result of fire by the self-sacrificing mujahidin, and their pilots were wounded.

Paktia — It has been reported from Samkani District, Paktia Province, that the vigilant mujahidin have attacked the headquarters of the Samkani 18th Regiment with heavy weapons. As a result of a direct hit, the ammunition dump of the regiment exploded and was completely destroyed. In this brave attack, 10 Soviet and servant soldiers were sent to eternal hell. The report adds that an armored vehicle carrying Soviet advisers collided with another armored vehicle from Nader Shah Kowt Regiment. In the confusion caused by the mujahidin attack, the two vehicles were destroyed, two Soviet advisers were wounded, and one infidel and traitor officer was killed.

Jowzjan — Our correspondent reports from Jowzjan Province that some time ago a unit of the invading Soviet forces was attacked by the forces of Islam in the environs of this province, as a result of which one tank and vehicle of those forces were destroyed and about 20 Soviet invaders and their servants were killed.

Parwan — According to a report by our correspondent from Parwan Province, two fuel tankers of the bloodthirsty Soviets were destroyed as a result of a surprise attack by the courageous mujahidin of Islam, two of their occupants were killed, and about 50,000 liters of fuel were destroyed.

Afghan Commander Killed

LD042157 (Clandestine) Voice of Afghanistan in Dari 1130 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Our correspondents report from the battlefields that every day large numbers of the officers and soldiers of the red guard and their servants are being sent to eternal hell as a result of intense and continuous attacks by the fighters of Islam on the enemy forces:

According to a report from Parwan Province, the fighters of Islam have attacked two convoys belonging to the Soviets and their servants in the Salang Pass. During these enemy-crushing attacks, 60 transport vehicles of the enemy carrying arms and ammunition were set on fire, 30 enemy soldiers were killed and 25 of the enemies of Islam and humanity were wounded.

According to another report from Tagab District, Parwan Province, one transport vehicle of the Soviets was destroyed as a result of a mine explosion planted by the faithful mujahidin, and their occupants were either killed or wounded.

Our correspondent reports from Andarab District, Baghlan Province, that some time ago the fighters of Islam, during a heroic attack killed the infidel Joma Khan, the commander of the 507th Tribal Regiment, together with a number of his companions. Our correspondent writes that the traitor Joma Khan surrendered himself to the Soviet servants in April of last year and by joining the ranks of blasphemy received the rank of lieutenant colonel from his Soviet masters. In the position of commander of the 507th Tribal Regiment of Andarab he committed shameful crimes against the faithful mujahidin, especially against the oppressed people of Andarab valley; and now finally he was punished for his shameful crimes by the powerful hands of the fighters of the path of God. Our correspondent adds that the death of this criminal is a great victory for the mujahidin and a great loss for the Soviets and their servants. It has also been stated in the report that during similar attacks by the fighters of Islam on the units of the tribal regiment of Andarab, six soldout militias have been killed, five wounded and five Kalashnikovs have been taken as booty.

It has been reported from Nangrahar Province that recently the epoch-making mujahidin of Islam, during a heroic attack, for the second time captured the No.4 post of the Torkham border battalion. During the attack heavy loss of life and property were inflicted on the enemy and four Soviet soldiers were wounded. The report also adds that two officers and eight soldiers of Torkham border battalion joined the ranks of jihad and the ranks of the bloodstained Islamic Revolution after leaving the shameful ranks of blasphemy.

It has been reported from Takhar Province that as a result of a courageous attack by the guardians of Islam, the infidel Nur-ol Haq, commander of a military post of the enemy in Takhar, was killed and Ghulam Sarwar, secretary of the youth organization of one of the wards of Takhar Province during a battle surrendered to the faithful mujahidin. One Kalashnikov and quantities of ammunition were taken as booty by the fighters of Islam.

Congress-I Party Committee Meets in New Delhi

Preparation Finalized

BK040404 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] The 2-day All India Congress Committee-I [AICC-I] session begins in New Delhi this morning. This will be the first AICC-I session since the assassination of Mrs Gandhi. On the eve of the session, the working committee of the party met yesterday to finalize the resolutions that are to be considered by the AICC-I. The party president, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, presided over the working committee meeting. The meeting was attended by the working committee members, Pradesh [state] Congress Committee-I presidents, and leaders of the state Congress-I legislature parties including a number of chief ministers.

The party, which celebrates its centenary on Monday, has invited a number of leaders who were prominent in the Congress movement but left the party at some stage. Mr Rajiv Gandhi has decided that these political personalities should be extended a warm and cordial welcome to attend the centenary celebrations of the party. Among those who are invited are Mr Nijjilingappa, Mr Morarji Desai, Mr Jagjivan Ram, Mr Charan Singh, Mr Chandra Shekher, Mr N. Sanjivaa Reddy, Mr E.M.S. Namboodripad, Mr Ramkrishna Hegde, and Mr H.N. Bahuguna.

Gandhi Addresses Meeting

BK040956 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Mr Rajiv Gandhi has said that the country has to face the challenges posed by agitation, some of which are openly aimed at weakening India's unity and integrity. Addressing the All India Congress-I [AICC-I] Committee which began a 2-day session in New Delhi this morning, he said it is strange that those who lose in the elections take to the street. They swear by democracy while they are seeking votes, but they forget all about it when the people reject them. We have to see that violence is checked and the country's unity and integrity is not affected. The Congress-I president referred to Gujarat and regretted that some parties have started an agitation on an issue on which the people had voted overwhelmingly in favor of the Congress-I. Many people have been killed in the agitation and a lot of property has been destroyed. Mr Gandhi said the strength dervied by the Congress-I in Gujarat through the people's vote cannot be taken away by agitation.

About Punjab, Mr Gandhi said government had taken some steps to reduce tension and to assure the Sikhs that it feels for them, understands their problems, and wants to solve them. It is now for the other side to extend their hands so that together we can solve this problem, he said. Steps had also been taken for the economic development of Punjab where development work had been affected. If necessary, more steps will be taken. Mr Gandhi said the government wants people of all religions to live in security and be free to practice their religions. Mr Gandhi said the voice being raised in Punjab against the integrity of the country is not the voice of every Sikh, but only of some. He pointed out that a deliberate effort had been made to harm the relation between Hindus and Sikhs through selective killings, but this has not affected the communal amity in the state and the two communities continue to live in peace.

In a reference to Assam, he expressed the hope that some solutions will be found to the foreigners issue and said that the atmosphere is good.

Mr Gandhi said that the people must close their ranks and fight as one the problems facing the country. The government wants to tackle major issues through consensus among the major political parties. But this consensus should not be such that it weakens the country's unity and integrity. In fact, the objective of all actions should be to strengthen India's unity and integrity.

The Congress-I president also referred to many economic issues and clarified government's policy. He declared that the Congress-I continues to stand for socialism and has not wavered from its goal. The basic objective — the uplift of the poor — has not changed. Every effort has to be made for the welfare of scheduled castes and tribes and other backward classes.

Mr Gandhi said there has been no change in the importance of the public sector which has been the key to India's growth. The seventh plan will help enable India face other countries competitively in industry and agriculture. The big investment envisaged in the plan will be achieved and may even be exceeded. He also made it clear that there is no change in the policy relating to foreign investments and multinational companies.

Turning to the international scene, Mr Gandhi said India will try to improve its relations with its neighbors on the basis of our unity and integrity. He regretted the extensive militarization in Pakistan. This has led to an escalation in the arms race which India would have preferred to avoid. India feels that Pakistan is developing a nuclear weapon and this will change the situation in the region. India is not convinced that all the powers that could stop Pakistan are in fact trying to do that.

About Sri Lanka, he said Tamils in that country must be made to feel that they (?are) wanted and are valued. India has been in constant touch with the Sri Lanka Government to help solve the ethnic issue. Progress has been made but it could have been faster.

The session began by paying homage to Mrs Indira Gandhi. Members stood in silence for a while as a mark of respect to her. A condolence resolution said Mrs Gandhi personified the spirit of the Congress. Time and again she defended India's honor and integrity. She held aloft the torch of democracy and secularism. She strengthened the nation's economic fiber and made self-sufficiency a reality. Amid cheers the AICC-I unanimously ratified the decision of the working committee to elect Mr Rajiv Gandhi as party president.

Earlier, hoisting the party flag, Mr Gandhi said the massive mandate given to the Congress-I in the elections has redoubled its responsibility to work for the welfare of the people.

The political resolution presented to the AICC-I this morning called upon the Akali Dal leaders to frame their responses to the

prime minister's initiatives in such a way that an amicable settlement can be brought about with the least possible delay. The resolution was moved by the Uttar Pradesh chief minister, Mr N.D. Tiwari, and seconded by the Kerala chief minister, Mr Karunakaran. The resolution welcomed the economic measures announced by the prime minister for reviving Punjab's economy. It urges the government to explore all means for a peaceful settlement.

Referring to Gujarat, the resolution says the party will stand by the commitments to reservations provided in the Constitution. It will ensure the continued advance of the socially and economically disadvantaged sections, particularly scheduled castes, tribes, and the backward classes. The AICC-I also called upon the government to take stern action against forces of communalism and obscurantism. The resolution says it is unfortunate that some opposition parties have adopted an ambivalent attitude for short-term political gains. Some have even fraternized with antinational and secessionist elements. The resolution urges all political parties to demarcate areas which are beyond controversy. Among these are national unity, defense, planned development, communal harmony, law and order, and welfare of the downtrodden. A national consensus should be hammered out on these issues. Moving the resolution, Mr Tiwari exhorted Congressmen to unitedly fight extremism, terrorism, and violence. Mr Karunakaran cautioned about forces working against the unity of the country from within and outside. During the discussion on the resolution, speakers demanded more coordination between the party and the government. They expressed concern at the fresh developments in the Akali Dal leadership.

Remarks on Nuclear Threat

BK041301 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 4 May 85

[Excerpts] Mr Rajiv Gandhi has said that the country has to face the challenge posed by agitations, some of which are openly aimed at weakening India's unity and integrity. Speaking at the All India Congress-I Committee [AICC-I] which began a 2-day session in New Delhi today, he said the people must close their ranks and fight as one the problems facing the country.

He said India feels that Pakistan is developing a nuclear weapon. India is not convinced that all the powers that could stop Pakistan are in fact trying to do that. Mr Gandhi declared that we are looking into various aspects of this to see what action we could take.

About Sri Lanka, he said Tamils in that country must be made to feel that they are wanted and valued.

The session began by paying homage to Mrs Indira Gandhi. Members stood in silence for a while as a mark of respect to her. Earlier, Mr Gandhi hoisted the party flag marking the inauguration of the session.

The political resolution unanimously adopted by the AICC-I session a short while ago called upon the Akali leaders to frame their responses to the prime minister's initiative so as to enable an amicable settlement with the least possible delay.

Participating in the discussion, [Home Minister] Mr S.B. Chavan said there is no issue in Punjab which cannot be solved through negotiations provided the Akalis come forward for talks. Referring to the Gujarat agitation, he said some political parties are interested to weaken the ruling party there. He said the government is ready for talks to find a solution to the problem.

On Assam, Mr Chavan said during his recent talks with the agitation leaders there he found that a solution is not difficult to find.

The resolution on international affairs to be discussed at AICC-I session takes serious note of Pakistan's persistent efforts to acquire nuclear military capability. About the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka, the resolution says a solution to this problem can only come through a national dialogue in Sri Lanka based on justice to the Tamils and within the framework of that country's territorial integrity.

BBC on Gandhi Remarks

BK041237 London BBC World Service in English 1200 GMT 4 May 85

[From the "Radio Newsreel" program]

[Text] The Indian prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, has said his government is considering what action to take in the light of definite reports it has received that Pakistan is going ahead with the development of nuclear weapons. Mr Gandhi said it was a dangerous development by Pakistan which would completely change the military balance in the subcontinent. Pakistan has repeatedly denied that it is manufacturing nuclear arms. Mr Gandhi's remarks came in a speech to his Congress Party in Delhi from where Mark Tully sent this dispatch:

[Begin recording] This is the first time he has indicated that the new government is even considering the nuclear option. India does have a sophisticated nuclear program and did indeed explode a nuclear device 11 years ago. But the government has always been saying that the whole program including the one explosion is peaceful. In recent years, these assurances have on the whole been internationally accepted. Pakistan maintains that its nuclear research program is also peaceful, but there has been considerable skepticism about this in Western countries as well as India.

It's possible that Mr Rajiv Gandhi is attempting to put pressure on America to take a tougher stand on Pakistan's nuclear program. He told his party conference: We are not convinced that all powers that can do so are trying to stop Pakistan developing a nuclear weapon. This seems to be an indirect reference to President Reagan's decision to supply arms to Pakistan in spite of doubts in Washington about that country's nuclear program.

Rajiv Gandhi is due to visit America next month and one of the main points he will bring up is the threat to India which, he maintains, the rearmament of Pakistan represents. [end recording]

Defense Minister on Statement

BK041630 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 May 85

[Excerpts] The All India Congress-I Committee [AICC-I] has called upon the Akali Dal leaders to respond to the prime minister's initiatives in such a way that the Punjab problem can be settled speedily. The political resolution adopted unanimously by the committee at its session in New Delhi today declares that India's unity and integrity are supreme and everything else has to be subordinated to them. It reaffirms that the Congress-I stands for full safety and protection of the Sikh community residing in any part of the country and calls for firm action against those indulging in violence, subversion, and misuse of places of worship. The AIR [All India Radio] correspondent says that the session devoted most of the day to the debate on the political resolution. Members highlighted dangers posed by elements trying to destabilize the country and weaken its unity.

Speaking on the resolution on international affairs at the AICC-I session, [Defense Minister] Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao clarified a short while ago that it will be wrong to interpret that India has been reviewing its policy on nuclear energy. He said the remark by Mr Rajiv Gandhi this morning has been misinterpreted by some overenthusiastic newsmen. The interpretation was not warranted. Mr Narasimha Rao said that he had the support of Mr Gandhi in making this clarification. Mr Gandhi was present at that time.

The resolution was later unanimously adopted. Mr Narasimha Rao appreciated the concern expressed by a number of speakers over reports of Pakistan acquiring nuclear capability. He assured them that the government is fully alive to these dangers. But as the government, we cannot react to every news item about these developments. India has to have a certain amount of defense preparedness based on its needs regardless of what its neighbors may acquire. India does not have to match them on a weapon-to-weapon basis, but on the basis of matching a system with a system.

Mr Narasimha Rao said that the whole country is one with regard to our foreign policy which is based on the principles of peace and nonalignment. Stressing the need for cooperation among various countries, he said the only way to exist in the world today is to coexist. He said the big powers talk of disarmament but go on adding to their arsenals. The huge amount which they spend on armaments can be diverted to development.

Gandhi Makes Closing Speech

BK051624 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] The 2-day session of the All India Congress-I Committee ended in New Delhi this evening with an affirmation by the party president, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, that the party will never deviate from the path of socialism. The affirmation was also made in the economic resolution, which was adopted unanimously earlier in the day. Resolutions on women and youth were also adopted before the session concluded.

In his closing remarks Mr Rajiv Gandhi warned profiteers of severe punishment. He said there has been unjustified rise in prices and people indulging in such activities must be punished.

Mr Gandhi also announced that an award for national understanding will be instituted from this year in memory of Mrs Indira Gandhi. The suggestion was made by some members during the debate. Mr Gandhi said preparatory work in this connection has been completed.

In a reference to the public sector, he said the government is giving attention to removing its weaknesses. As it gains in strength more benefits of the public sector will reach the people at large. Work on the program to remove poverty will also be speeded up. He denied that there has been any reduction in the resources for these programs. In fact, the allocation for them will be larger. But these programs are to be carried out with the cooperation of the state governments. Funds are given when the detailed schemes are received from them.

Mr Gandhi asserted that the only objective of the Congress-I is to uplift the poor. For this there are several requirements, including security — both internal and external. Only then can we raise the economic level of the people. We should also safeguard our historic heritage while advancing. He said a great deal had been achieved and even during the past few months a number of programs for the poor were initiated. We will go along the path to safeguard the country's independence and stand on our own feet.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi said a news agency makes its own interpretation to some of the remarks he made yesterday about Pakistan's nuclear program and what India will do in this regard. After twisting his remarks, they openly told him that they had themselves interpreted what he had said. It is by such acts, particularly on matters concerning national policies, that the press gets the bad name. Are they responsible, he asked.

Gandhi Speaks Before Rajya Sabha on Foreign Affairs

BK031634 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] The prime minister has expressed India's concern over the feverish accumulation of sophisticated weapons by Pakistan and its nuclear program encouraged by certain major powers.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi was replying to the 2-day discussion in the Rajya Sabha today on the working of the Ministry of External Affairs. He assured the members that there will be no compromise on India's security.

Mr Gandhi said that despite our best efforts to improve relations with Pakistan, that country has inducted sophisticated weapons, adding to the tension in the region. He expressed unhappiness that an exception has been made by some major powers in the case of Pakistan by delinking economic and military aid to it from its nuclear program. We take it as a direct help to Pakistan in its nuclear program, he said.

Referring to the trial of hijackers of Indian Airlines plane, now going on in Pakistan, Mr Gandhi hoped that the trial will be just, and the guilty will get correct punishment as in similar cases earlier.

Describing India's foreign policy as tested and proven during the last 37 years, the prime minister said the success of any foreign policy depends on the respect that the country carries in the world. Mr Gandhi said that one of the cornerstones of our foreign policy is peace, and he referred to the 6-nation summit of heads of state held in New Delhi recently calling for total nuclear disarmament. He said the call has been welcomed by most of the countries of the world, including some nuclear weapon nations. The prime minister said that during his forthcoming visit to the Soviet Union, Egypt, France, Algeria, and the United States, he will hold talks on disarmament and decisions of the 6-nation summit with the leaders of those countries.

Welcoming the talks on disarmament between the two big powers in Geneva, Mr Gandhi hoped that they will be fruitful. The prime minister expressed concern at the escalation of Iran-Iraq war and the reported use of nonconventional weapons. He said India will continue to make efforts to end the war, but the present situation is not optimistic. Referring to Namibia, the prime minister said that we must all raise our voice against the racist regime of South Africa and help the people of Namibia to achieve freedom. Mr Gandhi said that he has invited the president of SWAPO, Dr Nujoma, to visit India and he has accepted the invitaiton.

Referring to the ethnic problem in Sri Lanka, the prime minister said that we want to see that all the refugees who have come to this country go back to Sri Lanka with honor and security and get full freedom within the integrity of that country. He said we are in contact with the Sri Lanka Government and some progress has been made.

About China, the prime minister said we want to improve our relations as in earlier days, but the main problem of border cannot be forgotten.

Sikh Party To Meet on Leadership Change 17 May

HK030756 Hong Kong AFP in English 0749 GMT 3 May 85

[By Dilip Ganguly]

[Text] New Delhi, May 3 (AFP) — The Sikh party Akali Dal seems headed towards a formal split as militants brace to keep hold of the leadership wrested from moderates, Sikh sources said today.

The party, which leads a drive for autonomy in the rich Sikh farming state of Punjab, is scheduled to meet in the holy city of Amritsar on May 17 to discuss the leadership issue, Gurdeep Singh, a party member said when reached by telephone.

The gathering was summoned by Harchand Singh Longowal, who headed the party's majority faction before he was ousted yesterday by the father of the late firebrand militant leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale. The Akali Dal claims a membership of 2.2 million people.

Joginder Singh, 74, announced yesterday he was dissolving the Dal's two factions led by Mr. Longowal and Jagdev Singh Talwandi. He said he was taking over leadership to keep unity in the Sikh "panth" (faith). He constituted a nine-member committee with himself as the convener. Mr. Longowal and Mr. Talwandi were on the committee, he said. A source close to Mr. Longowal termed seven of the committee members as militants.

"Instead of uniting the party and the Sikh masses, his move has widened the gulf with a very real risk of a formal split," a Sikh source close to the party told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE in a telephone interview from Amritsar today.

Analysts in New Delhi added that with hardcore militants taking over the leadership, the Sikh autonomy campaign might be headed for fresh confrontation with Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's federal government.

They pointed out that the militants' move came just as Mr. Gandhi was offering concessions by accepting some of the Sikh demands to appease the autonomy movement.

"But now with militants at the helm of affairs, even an optimist does not think it is possible to have talks with them to settle the issue," one analyst here said.

A section of India's 16 million Sikhs are waging an often-violent campaign for greater political autonomy for their northwestern home state of Punjab.

Hardliners among the Sikhs go further, wanting outright secession into a Sikh state called "Khalistan" — the land of the pure.

A Sikh reached by telephone in Amritsar yesterday told AFP that there was "tension and uncertainty" in the city where some 650 people died in the June 1984 Army storming of the Sikh Golden Temple to flush out militants.

"Sikhs have started arriving here in large numbers," the source added.

The surprise impact of the Dal leadership change on New Delhi was shown when Mr. Gandhi himself expressed concern yesterday and advised his deputies not to say anything in haste, analysts noted.

Meanwhile, Sikh sources here close to Mr. Longowal said that he would oppose the militants' move at the May 17 meeting. But the sources expressed concern that moderates could be outnumbered by militants.

A Sikh source in New Delhi said the meeting would be attended by "jathedars" (headmen of clusters of villages). Their numbers are put at between 8,000 and 10,000.

"The Punjab stalemate appears to have taken a new form, and the future acquires an additional dimension of unpredictability," the Punjab newspaper *TRIBUNE* said in an editorial.

Senior Akali Leaders Hold Closed Meeting

BK060310 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 May 85

[Text] In Chandigarh, six senior Akali leaders held a closed door meeting yesterday. The leaders are the party president, Sant Harchand Singh Longowal; SGPC [Shiromani Gurdwara Prabandhak Committee — Sikh Temple Management Committee] chief, Mr Gurcharan Singh Tohra; former Chief Minister Mr Prakash Singh Badal; former Union Minister Mr Surjeet Singh Barnala; and former state ministers Mr Balwant Singh and Mr S.S. Bintha. The meeting is understood to have discussed the situation arising out of the recent announcement by Jathedar Joginder Singh regarding the dissolution of the party and the constitution of a 9-member ad hoc committee in its palce.

Punjab Governor Appeals for Solution to 'Tangle'

BK050412 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] The Punjab governor, Mr Arjun Singh, has appealed to all political parties and citizens of the state to help create a congenial atmosphere for finding a solution to the Punjab tangle. Addressing a conference organized by the All India Scheduled Class Council at Batinda yesterday, he said if the prevailing situation continues, the state's economy will suffer.

Khanna Curfew Relaxed; Official Reviews Situation

BK031612 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] In Punjab, curfew in Khanna town of Ludhiana District was relaxed till 1800 today except for 1 hour in the morning. According to an official spokesman in Chandigarh, curfew has been reimposed from 1800 till 0500 tomorrow morning as a precautionary measures.

Meanwhile, the union home secretary, Mr R.D. Pradhan, visited Chandigarh today. He is understood to have reivewed the Punjab situation with senior officers of the state government.

Pakistan-Trained Extremists Held in Amritsar

BK031610 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] The police chief of Amritsar District said today that two notorious extremists, who had been trained in Pakistan, were overpowered and arrested this morning. He said the arrest took place after an encounter near the city. The names of the two extremists are Ajit Singh and Avtar Singh.

Preliminary interrogation had revealed that the two extremists had crossed over to Pakistan from Dera Baba Nanak area in Gurdaspur District. They had received training in the use of Stenguns and automatic weapons.

Meanwhile, it has been disclosed by the police that three extremists were involved in the recent attack on Mr R.L. Bhatia, general secretary of AICC-I [All India Congress Committee-I]. Two of them are under arrest.

Policemen Killed in Clash With 'Terrorist'

BK041240 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] In Chandigarh, a hard-core terrorist was arrested today after an encounter with the police. Some arms and ammunition were recovered from him. According to the police, two policemen were killed and two injured in the encounter.

Gujarat Government Employees Threaten Strike

Talks To Avoid Strike Fail

BK040400 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] In Gujarat, the talks between the state government and striking employees of the state secretariat and allied offices have failed. According to a spokesman of the employees, the talks failed on the demands for the government action against the police officers responsible for the alleged excesses on the employees in Gandhinagar last Monday. The employees have threatened to launch a state-wide strike from next Monday if their demands are not settled.

Meanwhile, the situation all over the state continues to be peaceful and no untoward incident has been reported from any part in the last 24 hours. The curfew has been further relaxed today in all the curfew bound areas in Ahmedabad, Baroda, Surat and Kadi.

Governor Appeals for Trust

BK050408 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] In Gujarat, the situation has remained peaceful all throughout the state last night. No untoward incident has been reported from any part of the state. Considering the improved situation, only night curfew now prevails in the curfew bound areas in Ahmedabad, Baroda, Viramgam, Kadi, and Surat.

Meanwhile, efforts are on at various levels to avert the threatened statewide strike of the government employees from tomorrow demanding immediate release of the (Sadvani) committee report on the Rashtra [national] system of promotions in government services. A spokesman of the Gujarat state employees confederation, which has given the call for an indefinite strike, has said that talks to avoid the strike cannot be ruled out. The spokesman stated that the confederaton has received a letter from the government's side inviting its leaders for talks.

In another development, the Gujarat government Class IV employees confederation has appealed to its members not to go on strike from tomorrow. A number of other unions of the government employees have also decided to stay away from the call of indefinite strike.

The Gujarat governor, Mr B.K. Nehru, has appealed to the people and the police in the state to reestablish mutual trust among themselves. Speaking over the All India Radio and Doordarshan [television] from Ahmedabad, Mr Nehru apologized to the victims of the recent violent incidents on behalf of the wrongdoers. The governor said that the state government is trying its best to alleviate the sufferings of the people and help them resume their normal life.

Strike Begins 6 May

BK060330 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 6 May 85

[Text] In Gujarat, the indefinite strike of the state government employees has begun from midnight. According to a government spokesman no negotiations could take place yesterday with the representatives of the three main bodies of the government employees. The employees, on the other hand, have accused the government of its failure to take timely measures to avoid the strike. However, in a joint statement the striking employees have stated that the doors are still open for negotiations. The employees have gone on strike demanding the removal of the Rashtra system of promotion in government services, a judicial probe into alleged police excesses on government employees, and necessary action against the police officers responsible for this. Some employees unions belonging to the scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes and Class IV employees federation have decided to stay away from the strike.

Meanwhile, the state government has taken all necessary steps to meet the situation. Security arrangements have been tightened at all the state government offices. The striking employees have, however, exempted essential services like water and power units from the strike.

Srinagar Strikers Demand New Assembly Elections

BK060958 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 6 May 85

[Text] In Jammu and Kashmir, normal life was affected in Srinagar today following a bundh [strike]. The call for the bundh was given by the 9-party opposition front demanding imposition of governor's rule and fresh assembly elections in the state. According to UNI [United News of India], shops were closed in the city. Some buses were seen plying. Banks and government offices functioned, but with thin attendance.

'Prominent' Opposition Leaders Arrested in Jammu

BK041609 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] In Jammu, several prominent opposition leaders were arrested today while they were taking dharna [sit-in] at Tawi bridge, blocking movement of traffic between old and new Jammu city. The opposition parties were demanding fresh assembly elections in the state.

Ziaul Haq Departs for Visit to Burma, South Korea

BK040614 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0600 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] President General Mohammad Ziaul Haq left Islamabad this morning on a week's state visit to the Socialist Republic of Burma and the Republic of Korea. Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo saw him off at the airport. Senate Chairman Ghulam Ishaq Khan, National Assembly Speaker Fakr Imam, federal ministers, senators, national assembly members, three chiefs of Armed Forces, members of diplomatic missions, and high civil and military officials were present at the airport to see him off.

Mrs Ziaul Haq is accompanying the president. His entourage includes Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, Commerce Minister Saifullah Khan, and Baluchistan Finance Minister Saifullah Piracha. During his visit to both countries, the president will exchange views with the leaders of Burma and Korea on bilateral, regional, and international matters.

Greets Indian Leaders En Route

BK041624 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] In his message to Indian President Giani Zail Singh and Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi while overflying Indian territory on his way to Rangoon, President Mohammad Ziaul Haq reiterated that Pakistan attaches the highest priority to establishing friendly relations with India. He said it is a matter of great satisfaction that the recent bilateral political contacts have yielded positive results.

The good-neighborly and mutually beneficial cooperation will benefit the people of the two countries and promote peace and stability in the region. The president reaffirmed Pakistan's commitment to establish cooperative and cordial relations with India for the benefit of the two peoples and for promoting peace and stability in South Asia.

Senate Chairman Acting President

BK041057 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] The chairman of the senate, Mr Ghulam Ishaq Khan, will be the acting president of Pakistan in the absence of President Ziaul Haq abroad. The chairman, joint chiefs of staff committee, General Rahimuddin Khan, will be the acting chief martial law administrator during this visit.

Junejo: Martial Law Will End in 'Few Months'

BK040814 Karachi Overseas Service in Urdu 0800 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo has said that it is expected that the national budget for next fiscal year will be announced within approximately 2 weeks. He said this while speaking informally to newsmen after seeing off the president [on his visit to Burma and ROK] at Islamabad airport. The prime minister said the National Assembly session will begin in the 3d or 4th week of this month.

Asked when martial law will be lifted, Mohammad Khan Junejo said this would be a matter of a few months. He said this matter should be left to him.

Answering another question, the prime minister said the elected representatives will lead the nation by expressing their views on all affairs of national importance.

Junejo on Cabinet Expansion, Kashmir Issue

BK041055 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 4 May 85

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, has said the national budget for the new fiscal year is expected to be announced in about 2 weeks. He was informally talking to newsmen at the Islamabad airport after seeing off the president this morning.

Asked about the expansion of the federal Cabinet, he said it will not take very long.

In reply to a question about Kashmir, the prime minister said the problem was alive and Pakistan would endeavor to resolve it in the light of the Simla Agreement and the United Nations' resolutions. He pointed out that the issue had already been discussed in two stages, namely the the United Nations and the Simla Agreement.

NAWA-E WAQT Cites Junejo on Foreign Policy

GF051453 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 30 Apr 85 p 1

[Editorial: "Pakistan's Foreign Policy"]

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Mr Mohammad Khan Junejo, told correspondents in Faisalabad that there will be no change in Pakistan's foreign policy. He was answering a correspondent's query on the subject.

In answer to another question, he said: All issues, including foreign policy, will be debated in the assembly. Commenting on the Kashmir issue, the prime minister said this controversial issue will be resolved in accordance with the UN resolutions. These assurances by the prime minister are heartening, and the people will definitely welcome them.

It is essential for Pakistan to maintain amicable relations with its neighbors India and the Soviet Union. As far as the United States is concerned, it was always indifferent to Pakistan until the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. When the repercussions of the Soviet usurpation surfaced and Afghan refugees in large numbers were forced to seek a haven in Pakistan, the United States awoke to the importance of Pakistan's location. Pakistan also felt the need to strengthen its economy and defense and to cooperate with the United States in this regard.

Pakistan has made it clear to the United States and to all other powers that it will never give military bases even in cases of force. As far as relations with India are concerned, both countries are becoming aware that the historical and mental chasm that exists between the countries is becoming difficult to bridge, but it is necessary to do so. The talk of good-neighborliness and friendship between the two countries is a step in this direction. Pakistan realizes that India is trying to emerge as a mini-superpower in the subcontinent and insists on playing the role of a big brother, and in world politics, such a role has always been an irritable one.

Our relations with the Soviet Union have become strained due to Afghanistan, but Pakistan is trying to resolve the Afghan issue on a political level. The United Nations has made some attempts in this regard. Two rounds of talks have been held already under its auspices. These are the salient features of our foreign policy. It is an irrefutable fact, however, that our defense and foreign policy affairs have always been considered sensitive issues and the government policy has been to hide these from the people. Since they or their representatives are not kept in the picture they are forced to resort to foreign media and publications, which is not very desirable.

The people have a right to know how much pressure the United States is exerting on us because of Afghanistan; whether there has been a change in its policy as far as our needs for nuclear energy are concerned. We do not say that all the information must be bared before the public, as there are certain matters which if revealed can endanger public security, but those which do not affect them must not be concealed needlessly, as this gives rise to misunderstandings and leads to a sort of misunderstanding between the people and the government.

Finance Minister on Economic Situation, Aid

BK030930 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 2 May 85

[Text] Pakistan is to plead for less aid from the Aid-to-Pakistan Consortium meeting in Paris next week because it wants to achieve progressive self-reliance through better mobilization of its own resources. This was stated by the federal finance minister, Dr Mahbubul Haq, while addressing the envoys of the Aid-to-Pakistan Consortium countries in Islamabad today. He said Pakistan would like the consortium meeting to increase the proportion of nonproject assistance and provide more funds within the overall limit for the private and social sectors.

Explaining the priorities, the finance minister said the new government was contemplating large scale deregulation during the next financial year. This deregulation measure, he added, would be examined on merit. The aim behind it would be the advancement of the welfare of the people and the improvement of national production levels. The finance minister said there was pressure on the balance of payments, particularly in the 1st half of the current financial year, not only due to a bad cotton crop in 1984 but also due to deterioration in terms of trade. There were, however, some healthy signals and an increase of $100 million in the country's foreign exchange reserves recently. In spite of various pressures, he said, Pakistan has succeeded in keeping its inflation rate to a single digit level.

The finance minister asked the foreign envoys to support the contemplated provision of greater financial assistance to the private sector through funds and technical assistance in the creation of intermediary financial institutions. The envoys expressed their confidence in the economic policies of the government and the economic future of Pakistan.

Government Ratifies Weapons Convention

BK030922 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] Pakistan has ratified the convention on prohibition of use of certain conventional weapons. The instruments of ratification have been submitted to the UN secretary general. Pakistan's ratification of this convention reflects its consistent desire to ameliorate suffering, especially that caused to the civilian population by armed conflict.

Protest Lodged on 3 May Airspace Violation

BK051018 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Four Afghan aircraft again violated Pakistan's airspace on Friday [3 May] in the Arandu area of Chitral region. An official statement issued in Islamabad today said the aircraft fired 25 rockets and dropped 1 bomb about 3 km southeast of Arandu. No damage or casualty has, however, been reported. The Afghan charge d'affaires in Islamabad was summoned to the Foreign Ministry this morning, and a strong protest was lodged with him over the unprovoked attack.

5 May Violation Protested

BK061022 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1005 GMT 6 May 85

[Text] Afghan aircraft committed two violations of Pakistan's territory yesterday in the Arandu area of Chitral. Four Afghan aircraft vilated Pakistan's airspace by about 3 km and fired a few rockets about 2 km southeast of Arandu at 1045 [0545 GMT]. Later, at 1245, two Afghan aircraft committed a similar violation and fired a few rockets in the same area. No casualties or damage have been reported. The Afghan charge d'affaires was summoned to the Foreign Office this morning, and a strong protest was lodged with him over unprovoked attacks.

NEPAL

Australian Foreign Minister To Visit, Hold Talks

HK040608 Hong Kong AFP in English 0543 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Kathmandu, May 4 (AFP) — Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden is to arrive in Kathmandu Friday for a three-day official visit to Nepal, the Foreign Ministry said here today.

Mr. Hayden, the first Australian foreign minister ever to visit Nepal, will call on Prime Minister Lokendra Bahadur Chand and will hold talks with his Nepalese counterpart Padan Bahadur Khatri on bilateral, regional and international issues, a Foreign Ministry statement said.

He will also discuss Nepalese-Australian economic cooperation for the development of Nepal's vast water resources and forestry with Finance Minister Prakash Chandra Lohani.

Mr. Hayden will have an audience with King Birendra at the Narayanhity Royal Palace.

SRI LANKA

Minister on 'Positive' Change in Indian Posture

BK041141 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 4 May 85

[Excerpt] The minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, has said that all communities and religious groups should act in unity and with awareness in the current crisis. Speaking at a religious ceremony at Palk (?Harbor) yesterday, the minister stressed that while the violence of the terrorists has to be dealt with, as Buddhists we should not forget the principles of Buddhism and should act in a humane manner. He added that we should be optimistic in the fight against terrorism. No one should try to seek narrow political gain from the current crisis.

Referring to the gains and losses experienced last month in the fight against terrorism, Mr Athulathmudali said that five terrorists have been killed for every member of the security forces who had died.

Mr Athulathmudali said that the fact that India has changed her attitude toward the problem in Sri Lanka is something positive. In fact, the international media has been favorable toward us. The minister also said that the Muslims have now expressed their opposition to terrorism openly. He described the terrorists as a Marxist group which opposes religion and democracy.

Tamil Separatists Attack Naval Base in Jaffna

HK040602 Hong Kong AFP in English 0541 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Colombo, May 4 (AFP) — Militant Tamil separatists attacked the main naval base in northern Sri Lanka's Jaffna Peninsula yesterday killing at least three sailors, highly reliable sources said today. An undetermined number of attackers died or were wounded in the raid, the sources said.

The death of the three sailors, still to be officially confirmed, brings the toll of servicemen in the past two weeks to 25.

State Ministry sources confirmed that the Karainagar Naval Base was attacked by separatists but they said they could not say whether the defenders suffered casualties.

The State Ministry sources said that four wounded attackers were taken to hospital for treatment.

One of the separatists died in the Jaffna hospital. Other militants raided the hospital and carried away the wounded in a hijacked ambulance, reliable sources told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Neither Defence Ministry officials nor high ranking security sources were available for comment on the number of Navy casualties.

Further AFP Report

HK040730 Hong Kong AFP in English 0713 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Colombo, May 4 (AFP) — Three sailors and about 20 Tamil separatists were killed when separatists attacked the main naval base in northern Sri Lanka's Jaffna Peninsula last night, official sources said today. The main attack was apparently launched by sea, with the militants reportedly using rocket-propelled grenades, forcing the Navy to fire mortars, reliable sources said.

The gun battle at the base lasted several hours, security sources said, and three other sailors were seriously wounded and others suffered minor injuries, security sources said.

The raid on the Karainagar Base was carried out by the Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front (EPRLF), and the attackers' leader, identified only as Chinniah, was among those killed, reliable sources said.

The EPRLF is one of several militant groups waging an independence campaign for the north and east of Sri Lanka.

Three wounded attackers taken to Jaffna hospital were later carried off by other militants in a stolen ambulance, the reliable sources added. They also took away the body of a fourth attacker who died in hospital, and burnt it, apparently to prevent identification, they said.

Reports from Jaffna said that militants had also attacked the Jaffna Fort, where some Army units are reportedly camped, probably to prevent the troops from trying to relieve the pressure on the naval base. Local correspondents said militants had fired into the fort area, but no further details about the attack were immediately available.

Twenty five servicemen and at least 60 militants have died in clashes since April 14, according to official figures.

Militants attacked Karainagar earlier this year, but there were no casualties and little damage, the sources said.

Meanwhile, National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali told AFP that a report yesterday that 116 bodies had been found in the northeastern jungles was found to be false.

The minister said that when the report was made to the Mutur Police that the bodies, many of them decomposed, were in the jungle, it was assumed that they had been discovered by members of the Home Guard. But official inquiries had revealed that it was a false report made by a single person and there was no other evidence.

31 Reported Dead

BK050212 Colombo International Service in Hindi 0130 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Tamil terrorists launched many attacks on the Sri Lankan Navy and Army bases on Friday night [3 May] and at least 28 terrorists and 3 sailors were killed. In the attack on the naval base at Karainagar in the north, 25 terrorists and sailors were killed. When the Army repulsed an attack on the fort of Jaffna, three more were killed. In the Jaffna fort, the bases of police and paramilitary units are located. Terrorists attacked the naval base with small cannon and guns; counterattacks were made by the gunboats of the Navy. The fight continued for many hours and 7 sailors and (?60) terrorists were badly wounded.

The terrorists made simultaneous attacks on two security posts in Jaffna and prevented police and the Army from helping the Navy. They attacked a naval camp at (Guranagar) also, but it was repulsed.

Meanwhile, the terrorists kidnapped a doctor from Jaffna to treat their injured accomplices. The terrorists also stole firewood to cremate the bodies of their accomplices.

Delhi on Sweep Against Tamils

BK050816 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0730 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Reports from Sri Lanka say that security forces are carrying out a big operation against Tamil militants in the northeast. About 200 men aided by armored columns swept through the area south of Mutur, killing three Tamils and detained a number of Tamil youth.

As reported earlier, three servicemen were killed and five bodies were found when Tamil militants attacked the island's biggest naval base at Karainagar yesterday. Twenty-eight Tamil militants are also reported killed in the attack.

'Thousands' Flee Naval Base Area

HK060738 Hong Kong AFP in English 0711 GMT 6 May 85

[Text] Colombo, May 6 (AFP) — Thousands of people have fled the area of a naval base attacked by Tamil separatists on Friday, after security forces set hundreds of houses ablaze, a Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF) spokesman said today.

The spokesman for TULF, the main Tamil political group, said in Jaffna that 300 houses had been set on fire and at least 9,000 of the 25,000 residents had fled Karainagar, an island off the Jaffna Peninsula where the Sri Lankan Navy has a base. But local correspondents reported that around 100 houses were set aflame.

Jaffna residents said that some of the refugees had been temporarily housed in schools in Vaddukodai, Araly and Sithankerni at the northern end of the Jaffna Peninsula.

TULF sources blamed security forces for the arson, which they said began early yesterday and went on until late last night. Government sources were not immediately available for comment, today being a holiday.

Sri Lankan security forces chiefs were at a National Security Council meeting today and could not be contacted.

A government information department official said that he had "no information" about the reported arson.

The Karainagar naval base was attacked by militant Tamil separatists on Friday night.

The Tamil separaist guerrillas are fighting for political autonomy for the north and east of Sri Lanka.

Around 20 guerrillas and three sailors were killed in the battle, which lasted several hours. Three other sailors were seriously wounded. Informed sources said that among those killed when Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front guerrillas attacked the base was the raiders's leader, a young girl identified only as Chinniah. She was shot dead as the attackers launched an assault on the perimeter fence, the sources said.

Athulathmudali on Attack

BK061117 Colombo International Service in English 1030 GMT 6 May 85

[Excerpt] Speaking in Katugampola this morning, the minister of national security, Lalith Athulathmudali, said that incidents like the attack on the police station at Nikaweratiya and the bomb explosion in Colombo only proves that the terrorists never had any consideration for boundaries.

Recalling the statement made by President Jayewardene during the inauguration of the parliamentary session, Mr Athulathmudali stressed that we cannot wait until our boundaries get closer to us. He said that all settlers from Vavuniya to Elephant Pass should support the Armed Forces in protecting these areas. The minister said that such a program has had to be adopted because of the terrorists. He added that anyone who opposes the settlement program should first ask the terrorists to desist from violence.

Speaking at length on the facilities that are being provided to new settlers, Mr Athulathmudali said that he was considering giving special privileges to those who excel in the training that they are being given.

Referring to the attack on the Navy camp at Karainagar on Friday night, the minister pointed out that the Armed Forces had been able to repulse these attacks because they had been vigilant. He added that several terrorists, including leaders, had died in that incident. Mr Athulathmudali urged people living in other areas as well to be vigilant. He reiterated that this was not an anti-Tamil struggle, but a fight against terrorism. The Muslim people have risen against terrorism without fear; 95 percent of the people of this country are opposed to terrorism, said the minister. If we all work together, the terrorists would not be able to survive for long.

Speaking further Mr Athulathmudali said that it was no use talking only about a political solution to the current crisis. It is true that discussion on a political solution is necessary.

However, the terrorists do not keep this in mind. Their sole aim is to destroy the democratic system and seize power through the barrel of the gun.

The minister added that if the political solution is found, it should be one which is reasonable and acceptable to everyone for all time.

Khomeyni Receives Publicity Bureau Officials

LD051052 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Hojaj-e Esiam Keshmiri, 'Aba'i, and Ja'fari, officials of the Islamic Publicity Bureau, were this morning received by Imam Khomeyni, the leader of the revolution and the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and held talks with the imam of the ummah.

Khamene'i Warns Against U.S. Naval Presence

LD051404 Tehran IRNA in English 1325 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA — President 'Ali Khamene'i Sunday [5 May] said why should the United States' naval units come to the Persian Gulf and set for themselves spheres of interests?

"It is only natural that we will not tolerate this, and the U.S. and regional governments should know that we shall no doubt be successful in this respect," Khamene'i told a crowd of visitors.

On the issue of the imposed war, the president said "When the Iraqi regime advanced many kilometers inside Iranian territory, international organizations were saying that Iran should accept a ceasefire, "but with the resolute steadfastness of you people and with the unprecedented resistance of the imam (Khomeyni) and through reliance on God Almighty, we gave them a good answer."

Referring to the U.N. Security Council's condemnation of the usage of chemical weapons, Khamene'i said this is a positive step, "but it is not enough, we want our right and will not settle for less than that because the world should learn that aggression should be answered in the most bitter and emphatic manner."

"If aggressors and bullies and domination-seekers do not see the discouragement of international organizations, then they will be encouraged in their aggressions," he added.

"If a decisive answer was given to the decrepit British colonialism when it started aggressing against other lands, or to the Americans when they started the same adventurism, then colonialism would not have become a world phenomenon. Right now, the Americans are the most domineering of all governments, and one should stand up against them. Some say this cannot be done, they say this because of the weakness they feel inside themselves, whereas we say this can be done because we look at our own hearts and the peoples' hearts."

"America has domination-seeking and bullying in its nature and this should be resisted," he concluded.

Friday Imam Criticizes Plan for 'Imposing Peace'

LD031433 Tehran IRNA in English 1417 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 3 IRNA — Temporary leader of the Friday mass prayers of Tehran Ayatollah Emami-Kashani said here today that the Baghdad government is after imposing a peace treaty upon Iran hoping that any truce aimed at saving Saddam Husayn would also serve to exterminate the Islamic Revolution and also isolate the Islamic Republic.

The ayatollah who was talking in his sermons to a large number of worshippers at the compounds of Tehran University said also that the Baghdad regime had deployed lethal chemical weapons against Irn's Muslim combatants even during the presence in Iran of the U.N. secretary general, Javier Perez de Cuellar, in April and that because of the myriads of war crimes perpetrated by the ruling Government in Iraq, the idea of sitting at the negotiation table with Saddam Husayn is beside the point.

The ayatollah also ridiculed the Organization of the Islamic Conference and its meeting in Baghdad describing it as a non-Islamic conference and questioning why a people professing to be Muslim scholars had viewed the imposition of a war upon the Islamic Republic as being wholly Islamic and its continuation 'un-Islamic'. He said the world has long since realized the nature and affiliations of international organizations and congresses and that the more of such and similar meetings be held the better the world people will learn about the nature and affiliations of the Baghdad regime.

Referring to a quasi-documentary film by the Baghdad regime alleged to have been shot in Iran recently but filled with inserted studio scenes of butchery and other brutal acts, the ayatollah said the Baghdad regime had flattered itself that by doing so it could disrepute the Islamic Republic, whereas the scheme had failed to bring the results expected of it by the Baghdad government.

Speaking about the behavior of the Islamic Republic the Ayatollah reminded that due to the brotherly behavior of the Iranian authorities with the Iraqi prisoners of war a group of six Iraqi POW's recently set free had requested political asylum with Iran immediately after their liberation, voicing even their determination to go to the battlefronts in order to shed their blood in the cause of Islam.

Towards the end of his second sermon the Ayatollah paid homage to the late Ayatollah Shahid Motahhari, as a character who for a long time during his life pioneering a battle with the ruling monarchy in Iran. [Sentence as received] Muslim scholar, political activist and member of the Revolution's Council during the provisional government Ayatollah Morteza Motahhari was martyred on May 2, 1979.

Majlis Speaker Restates Terms for Ending War

LD031920 Tehran IRNA in English 1844 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 3, IRNA — Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said to a group of the visiting personnel of the Nasr Army Company and Muslim combatants from the Sarrallah military headquarters here Thursday that the Islamic Republic would waive its claims against the Baghdad regime if a truly Islamic government should come to power in Iraq. He said however, that if any different government should come to power in that country then Iran's terms would remain the same.

The Hojjat ol-Eslam flatly rejected the notion of any backing down by the Islamic government from its earlier stand in the war reiterating that Iran's proposals for any end to the Iraq-Iran war are exactly the same as they were in the outbreak of the war.

He reminded that as the Baghdad government embroiled Iran in an unwanted war in 1980 the Iranian Armed Forces were somewhat disorganized. But that today militarily Iran stands in a highly better situation, and that the ideal of any leniency by the Islamic Republic towards the Baghdad government would be far from reasonable.

He said to the group of the visiting soldiers that internally Iraq is in an extremely vulnerable situation and that any forceful thrust by Iran's Muslim combatants such as they did in the Fath ol-Mobin operations in Khorramshahr would seal the doom of the Ba'th government in Iraq.

The Majlis speaker said Iran definitely demands that the terms and conditions as set forth for an end to the war be observed and compiled with not because the Islamic Republic is adamantine but rather because Iran's terms are dictated by Islam. He said what really matters is not the punishing this or that person but rather the enforcement of the dictates of the religion.

Rafsanjani said in a bid to provoke and involve other Persian Gulf states in the Iraq-Iran war, Saddam Husayn has threatened the heads of other states in the region that if he should happen to eventually "lose his head" in the Iraq-Iran war so will other heads of state in his wake. [As received] "Not if the heads you are referring to are not unruly or defiant," said he addressing himself to Saddam Husayn. "But they will certainly lose their heads if they happen to be unruly. They will however they may be, since we're against the undisciplined people." [Sentence as received]

"We have always made it clear that we do not mean to score an eventual victory in the wake of heavy bloodshed," said Rafsanjani, "but who knows, maybe one day we will find ourselves left with no other alternative. There is no solution to the war other than the one insuring the liberation of the people of Iraq."

Majlis Speaker: No Anti-Arab Sentiment in Iran

LD040954 Tehran IRNA in English 0907 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 4 IRNA — Iran's Majlis Speaker Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani said to a group of theologians from Islamic countries here that there was not the slightest anti-Arab prejudice in Iran and that "it is an honor for us to speak in Arabic."

Addressing visitors comprising theological students from Islamic countries currently studying in Iran as well as a group from the Martyr Motahhari Theological College in Tehran on Thursday, the imam's representative to the Supreme Defence Council [SDC] said: "We consider the Arabic language as one of the noblest in the world and believe that the Arab literature is a divine blessing bestowed upon humanity by the Almighty.

"It is the language of the Koran, the prophet, the imam, as well as our religion and history. Our glories in the libraries are all in Arabic. Our ulema are now writing in Arabic. We deliver part of our Friday prayers sermons in Arabic. Our prayers and more than half of the vocabulary in our literature are in Arabic. So there is nor anti-Arab sentiments in the Islamic Republic. On the contrary we hold a pro-Arab prejudice. The Arabic language has been placed the second in our constitutional law so that our children would study and learn it.

"Nevertheless, the enemies of Islam are raising the issue of the Arabs and non-Arabs. Fortunately, such Arab countries as Libya and Syria which are alongside us, have thwarted this propaganda of the enemies. If this issue existed at all, Syria and Libya would not side with us, particularly that most of them are Sunnis. The main issue is the issue of Islam and unbelief, that of justice and falsehood...

"You must take these issues among the people and inform them, though the majority of them are aware of these things yet you must be vigilant lest biased propaganda should influence them. You and us in Iran must be examples of cooperation between Arabs and non-Arabs, a model of Shi'a-Sunni unity, and present a prominent exemplar of Muslim solidarity. We must show that Muslims can be united against unbelief.

"If we succeed in keeping ablaze this sacred flame lit by the Islamic Revolution in Iran and spread it elsewhere, then there could be hopes for the salvation of the people and the oppressed. And there is no other alternative.

Today we see no hope for the rescue of the people in Marxism, or imperialism, or nationalism, or racial discriminations. The only way is Islam and, thanks God, there are over one billion followers of this faith and there are nearly 50 Islamic countries in the world...

Elsewhere in his speech to the visiting group, the SDC spokesman referred to the recent developments in Lebanon, and said a small group of Muslims in that country had succeeded in defeating a number of big powers and managed to expel the Americans, the Italians, the British, the French, the Phalanges, and the internal counterrevolutionaries from the scene and achieve victory.

The Lebanese Muslims also compelled the Zionists to flee the areas they had occupied in utmost humiliation and this great honor was gained for the first time by the Lebanese Muslims — a task the Arab countries had failed to fulfill, the Majlis speaker pointed out.

Rafsanjani said the enemies of Islam were using every possible means to quel the Islamic Revolution and to this end, he said, they had even resorted to theologians from other countries.

The Majlis speaker who was referring to the recent so-called Islamic conference in Baghdad, stated that they had taken a group of beguiled or hypocrite individuals to Baghdad who in the name of Islam declared support for an aggressor (Saddam) who has risen up against Islam and has shed so much blood, and criticized a rightful Islamic Revolution which is supporting the oppressed masses of the world.

On the active presence of the Iranian theologians in the battle-fronts, Rafsanjani said about one thousands of them had been so far martyred and thousands of others wounded in the 55-month-old Iraqi imposed war. He said some 47,000 theologians have participated in the war against the Iraqi aggressors.

Finance Minister Departs for Vienna OPEC Meeting

LD051421 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] On the eve of the session of OPEC finance ministers and the session of the board of directors of OPEC fund for international development, Minister of Economic Affairs and Finance Namazi left for Vienna today.

Before his departure, Namazi spoke to a correspondent of the Central News Unit, saying: On the basis of a 1975 decision, the OPEC fund was set up in order to facilitate help for the poor and developing countries from the oil-producing countries. So far, the fund has helped Asian, African, and Latin American countries to the tune of $1.8 billion.

Namazi then said: The new session of the OPEC fund, which is to be held on 7 and 8 May in Vienna, will hear the annual report on the activities of the fund. Afterwards the OPEC fund finance ministers will express their views on the fund's balance sheet. Moreover, issues relating to aid by the OPEC fund to the International Fund for Agricultural Development will be reviewed and a final decision will be made subsequently.

Commenting on the OPEC fund's continued assistance, the economic affairs and finance minister of the Islamic Republic said: The amount of aid provided by the fund will be commensurate with the contributions made by OPEC members. During the fund's session last year, the payment of nearly $340 million in loans for 3 years as well as the granting of other types of aid was approved. However, the fulfillment of the loan is subject to member countries fulfilling their commitments. Citing Iran's commitment vis-a-vis the OPEC fund, he said: Despite our existing economic conditions and the state of war, we shall adhere to our commitments to the fund.

Musavi-Ardabili Addresses Qazvin Armed Forces

LD051634 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 5 May 85

[Excerpts] According to a report from the Central News Unit, the chief justice of the state supreme court, on a tour of Qazvin, today attended morning ceremonies of the Armed Forces in the garrison for Qazvin's 16th Armored Division. Addressing the personnel of the Armed Forces, Mr Musavi-Ardabili said:

The avowed enemies of the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran, by employing all their resources, came to fight against the Islamic Republic and imposed the war upon us. But when they realized that the might and resistance of the Iranians were greater than they had imagined, they resorted to such deeds as hitting cities, attacking merchant ships, use of chemical bombs and other similar crimes. They thought such crimes would be effective, but thanks be to God, they gave up hope and realized that such weapons are useless against the power of faith and the logic of martyrdom.

While condemning Iraq's countless crimes and atrocities in the imposed war, the chief justice of the State Supreme Court pointed out: We have not declared a state of emergency yet, despite the elapse of some time since the start of the war, but if they were to increase their atrocities and if one day our dear leader were to deem it necessary, we would go to the front with all our resources and we give this assurance now that the enemy would not be able to stand against us.

The chief justice of the State Supreme Court emphasized: Global arrogance imposed the war upon us, but it cannot impose peace and compromise on us and we shall continue our battle until the realization of our justified conditions.

Mr Musavi-Ardabili also attended an administrative council of the town of Qazvin this morning. While stressing that the problem of the war is the main issue, Mr Musavi-Ardabili referred to countless conspiracies of the enemies of the revolution against the Islamic Revolution and said: The world is left with two options, it will either agree to leave us alone, or it will continue fighting against us. But if it should continue its atrocities, then we would have to say: Either surrender or death for us. But you should know that we will continue till the very last and our slogan is: Everything at the service of the war.

Delegation Leaves for Talks With Lebanese Ulema

LD031712 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] A delegation led by Karrubi, the imam's representative and supervisor of the Martyrs Foundation as well as member of the Majlis, left for Lebanon this morning to hold talks with Lebanese ulema and clerics.

DPRK's Kim Il-song Expresses Support in Message

LD041656 Tehran IRNA in English 1552 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 4, IRNA — The leader of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Kim Il-song who Friday received a message from Iranian President 'Ali Khamene'i, said his country supports the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In a meeting with the Iranian ambassador to Pyongyang, Kim Il-song asked him to convey his warm regards to Khamene'i and to congratulate him on the recent Iranian victories over Iraqi forces.

The Iranian Envoy Nahavandan had earlier given Kim Il-song a message from President Khamene'i.

The two sides also discussed cooperation in road and railway construction, and the exploitation of mines.

Polish Envoy, Commerce Minister Hold Talks

LD041527 Tehran IRNA in English 1514 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May, 4 IRNA — Poland's ambassador to Iran, Tadeusz Kohorewicz today met and conferred with Iranian minister of commerce, Hasan Abedi-Ja'fari. At the meeting mutual interests and expansion of commercial relations between the two countries were discussed. The Polish ambassador invited Abedi-Ja'fari to visit Poland's 57th international fair on June 9-16.

Abedi-Ja'fari accepted the invitation and in return, invited the Polish minister of foreign trade to pay a formal visit to Iran during Tehran's 11th international fair in August.

It is expected that the volume of trade between Iran and Poland will increase considerably in the current year (ends March 1986), Ja'fari said.

The two also discussed the export of Iran's non-oil goods to Poland.

Besharati Meets With New Polish Ambassador

GF041844 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] The new Polish ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran met today with Besharati, under secretary at the Foreign Ministry.

During the meeting, the Polish ambassador affirmed his country's willingness to develop economic cooperation with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Montazeri Inaugurates Islamic Seminar at Qom

LD052218 Tehran IRNA in English 1930 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Qom, May 5 IRNA — A three day seminar on "Islam and the Oppressed" was opened here today with an inaugural message of Ayatollah Montazeri.

Ayatollah Montazeri said in his message that the powers claiming support for the deprived have been for years shouting slogans in favor of "this noble and toiling class" but in practice they have tread the same path that their enemies have. He urged all Muslims to launch a practical and scientific effort in reviving "the divine Islamic values" in the world.

"We must show to the world that despite the poisonous propaganda of colonialism, Islam is capable of being a sovereign (religion) and fulfilling justice as well as administering the nations and that independent of the West and East, it could rely on its own feet and depend on the people," said the ayatollah in another part of his message to the seminar. Another speaker at the seminar was Hojjat ol-Eslam Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Majlis speaker and the imam's representative at the Supreme Defence Council, who spoke on the mission of the prophets and the imams and the sovereignty of the oppressed on the earth.

He outlined the status of the oppressed masses in the world and pointed to the tyrannies committed against them by the oppressors. He also referred to the role of the prophets in fulfilling divine goals and in fighting against "the tyrants of history."

In conclusion of his remarks, the Majlis speaker addressing the theologians of the Qom theological school, said "the city of Qom and its theological school must remain a center of the movement like the past. You theologians must try to keep this environment healthy and attract those who have not yet joined the revolution..."

Minister of Ershade Islami (Islamic Guidance) Dr Mohammad Khatami was another speaker at the seminar who said struggle against the oppressors was among the goals of the divine prophets.

He said the condition for the triumph of the oppressed over the oppressors was for the former to continue the same path that the prophets and the imams had trod and to obey the divine instructions.

Ayatollah Montazeri Addresses Teachers, Workers

LD031333 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 3 May 85

[Excerpt] On the occasion of Teacher's Day and International Workers Day, and the anniversary of the martyrdom of Ayatollah Motahhari, large groups of people from Workers House, many teachers from the provinces, students from several universities and centers of higher learning, a number of workers, including those from the steel mill, met with Grand Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday. During the meeting, he referred to International Workers Day and Teachers Day coinciding with the anniversary of the martyrdom of Ayatollah Motahhari, and said:

Martyr Ayatollah Motahhari was one of the glorious scholars of our century who was perhaps without equal in his scientific dimensions, spiritual and temporal virtues, piety, and personality. One of the spiritual characteristics of this great man, contrary to what is usual among many scholars, was that he did not fall under the sway of the conditions of his environment, but rather it was his environment that was influenced by him.

Referring to the status and moral position of workers and teachers in Islam, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri then said: The heavy scientific and production burden in society is shouldered by these two selfless, hard-working sections of society. Islam holds a special place for the important issue of work and working and also for education and training.

Grand Ayatollah Montazeri also said: With regard to seeking knowledge and raising scientific levels and the value of teaching of and training in science, Islam has made so many recommendations that these have surpassed all norms. And it was this very conception that became instrumental in enabling Muslims to become the vanguard of the world's material and natural sciences in a short time. When Europe was sunk in barbarism and ignorance and when the British were referred to as pirates, Muslims invented the first clock; and when they sent a clock to

Charlemagne, king of France, the people of Paris said: What is a clock? This is a devil incarcerated by the Muslims in a box and brought for us! And finally they broke up that clock!

In the same connection Grand Ayatollah Montazeri emphasized: Unfortunately, with that brilliant history and scientific background enjoyed by Muslims in the past, we saw how colonialism alienated Muslims from their Islamic history and personality and how they reversed their thoughts and spiritual values. Muslims were imbued with the Islamic thinking that in order to continue the life of the country they should be subservient to either the West or the East. And we saw how some became leftists and same become rightists, whereas the holy commander of the faithful, in "Nahj al-Balaghah", clearly condemned taking the left path or the right path in contradistinction to Islam's straight path by saying: Right and left are an abjection, but the middle path is the high road! [Preceding sentence spoken in Arabic]

Continuing, he graciously emphasised: In such curcumstances, where on one hand colonialism wishes to bring Muslims under the weight of its absolute abjection and slavery, while on the other hand the victory of the Islamic Revolution in Iran has brought about new conditions and a fresh path so that Muslims might attain genuine independence and their own Islamic personality, it is a universal duty that we should daily strive to make more fruitful the scientific dimensions and production in our revolutionary society. Teachers and workers have an extraordinary role to play along this path.

It is these two sections that could liberate the country from scientific, technical, agricultural, industrial, and production dependence on other countries. Unfortunately, conditions have not yet been brought about whereby the rights of these two hard-working sections are fully secured.

Of course, some work has been carried out, but it is the duty of the country's responsible officials to make arrangements increasingly whereby teachers, workers, and farmers can fulfill their mission of making the country self-sufficient in all its dimensions.

He also graciously stressed: Kindly notice how the war fronts and the areas behind them, the mosques, and the Husaynite religious centers, religious meetings, and others are mainly attended by these very deprived, meek people in our society who have so far managed in the best possible manner; and I have seldom heard that a capitalist or a rich person has taken part in such tasks. I do not say that these people do not take part at all, but they very seldom do so.

According to the same report, Grand Ayatollah Montazeri also met separately with the following during the past week: Hojjat ol-Eslam Mohammad Yazdi, the deputy speaker, and Hasan Ruhani and Vahhabi, chairman and deputy chairman of the Defense Committee of the Islamic Consultative Assembly; and Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Mahfuzi, the representative of Grand Ayatollah Montazeri to Tehran University; Ramezani, the revolution public prosecutor for Fars Province; the Air Force commander of operations; the Friday imams of Khark, Fuman, Natanz, Rabat Karim, Shariar, Buvanat Fars, Salavarjan, Sarvestan, Sard Rud, Razan, and Qorveh Hamedan.

Reyshahri Announces Arrest of 8 Monafeqin

LD051735 Tehran IRNA in English 1554 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA — Security forces arrested 8 members of the Monafeqin terrorist group while they were spying for Iraq in the war front during the Badr offensive two months ago, the information minister said in an interview published today.

Mohammad Mohammadi Reyshahri said the ministry had obtained information and documents which showed that members of the group spied for Iraq in the battlefront in exchange for money and equipment.

In an interview with the Persian daily *KAYHAN* published today, he also said "criminals who had committed big crimes" and were "intending to commit bigger crimes," had been arrested, details of which would be disclosed in the coming days.

"We have some good news which we will announce to the people or Iran in the coming days," Reyshahri was quoted as saying.

The minister described the recent marriage affair of the Monafeqin leader Masud Rajavi, as a "stupid act" which inflicted a great blow to the group.

"I don't think we were able to inflict such a blow upon them," he said.

The fiercest supporters of the group were not able to digest the affair and some had become mentally ill and hospitalized in foreign countries, he added.

Reyshahri encouraged those in Iran and abroad who want to correct their "deviated" past and admit their mistakes, to embrace Islam and the Islamic Republic.

"There is no problem in this regard and in fact we advise them to return."

He said the Information Ministry currently did not share intelligence with any country. Such an action would need the approval of the Cabinet presided by the president.

The ministry began operating for the first time in Iran 8 months ago. It has spent 90 percent of its efforts to organize itself with the help of experts and those who have worked in this field in the past few years. This task would be completed soon, Reyshahri said.

He said the ministry was responsible to confront and prevent anti-revolutionary activity. However, the ministry is only responsible for information gathering and the rest is the responsibility of the judiciary.

The information minister, like all other Cabinet ministers, is responsible towards the Majlis and can be impeached by it.

Iran, Turkey Regret Iraqi Attack on Tanker

GF031340 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] Brother Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam, political assistant at the Foreign Ministry, yesterday received the Turkish ambassador in Tehran. During the meeting, Brother Sheykh ol-Eslam expressed his regret at the attack to which a Turkish oil tanker was subjected by the planes of the Iraqi regime in the Persian Gulf. He said: The violation of all human and international laws by the ruling regime in Iraq in the war that this regime has imposed on the Islamic Revolution requires at the present time and more than at any previous time, the denunciation of this regime and an end to its inhuman and unlawful actions.

The political assistant at the Foreign Ministry added: Attacking ships in the Persian Gulf aggravates the crisis in this region. Islamic Iran does not want this. Since the Iraqi regime understands only the language of force and retaliation in kind, then we are compelled to confront the escalation of the crisis in the region.

On his part, the Turkish ambassador expressed his regret at the attack carried out against a Turkish oil tanker. He said: We have informed the Iraqis of our stand. I am confident that the Turkish Government will follow up this matter in a serious manner.

Joint Staff Command Issues Communiques

No 2,092

LD031642 Tehran IRNA in English 1634 GMT 3 May 85

["Artillery Battles Continue as Muslim Combatants Hold Out" — IRNA headline]

[Text] Tehran, May 3, IRNA — The Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces announced in its 2092nd communique today that the Islamic forces had opened fire upon the enemy's positions, logistic routes and engineering vehicles disrupting their movements and operations in the northwestern battlefronts during the 24 hours immediately before the communique had been issued Friday afternoon. The enemy troops sustained casualties in all these fronts especially in Chuman-Mostafa, it said.

In the western front, the Iraqi artillery and its heavy gun fire was responded to by the Iranian troops, and enemy patrol activities were thwarted. The engineering operations of Iraqi forces in the region overlooking Sumar were suppressed and in the area opposite Qasr-e Shirin the operation of two enemy patrol units was stopped.

The Islamic defenders also inflicted significant casualties upon the enemy troops in the southern fronts. The heaviest fire exchange was reported to have been in Nahr-Anbar.

A group of enemy patrols was detected by Muslim defenders in the Majnun Islands region and were forced to flee.

The gendarmerie troops also silenced the Iraqi fire in Arvand River and Dehloran by zeroing in on the Iraqi positions and on its fortifications. Parts of enemy positions and observation posts were set ablaze in each region while several of its forces were killed or wounded. Also in battles in Arvand River fronts three Iraqi soldiers were killed, the communique concluded.

No 2,093

LD041604 Tehran IRNA in English 1543 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 4, IRNA — The combatants of the Islamic Republic Friday silenced Iraqi guns in artillery duels in Hajj 'Umran, Sardasht and Marivan fronts in the northwest, said the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces in communique number 2093 today.

It said that enemy patrols tried to infiltrate Iranian positions in Hajj 'Umran but where spotted and forced to flee after several hours of fighting.

Iranian Muslim combatants stationed in Bakhtaran, and Ilam regions as well as the southern fronts bombarded enemy positions interrupting enemy's supply efforts and killing a number of their soldiers.

Iranian forces sent patrols in the area to evaluate enemy movements and to keep them under control. On Thursday at 22:30 local time enemy patrols fled after coming under Iranian fire, the command said.

The heaviest confrontations were reported in Nahr-Anbar, Kushk, Zayd and Majnun Islands. The gendarmerie personnel in the vicinity of the Arvand River killed a number of enemy troops in the bombardment of Iraqi positions.

No 2,094

LD051754 Tehran IRNA in English 1748 GMT 5 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 5, IRNA — The Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran said in its military communique number 2094 here today that sporadic skirmishes had occurred between Iran's Muslim combatants and the Iraqi troops in many of the battlefronts during the 24 hours immediately before the military communique was released this evening.

The communique said that on Saturday the Iranian troops had shelled enemy positions in the north western fronts checking the relocation of enemy troops and preventing their activities.

In the western fronts sporadic artillery fire was traded between the warring troops, the Iranian soldiers killing and or wounding a number of the Iraqi soldiers. In battlefields overlooking Sumar and Qasr-e Shirin the Iranian forces opened fire on enemy positions preventing them from digging trenches in the area.

Elsewhere in the southern fronts Iran's Muslim combatants maintained their positions throughout Saturday as they returned enemy fire using their heavy guns. In Nahr-Anbar several enemy patrol units were spotted and immediately repelled from the area while elsewhere across the Arvand River the Iranian forces

disrupted the engineering operations of the enemy troops setting ablaze several larger bunkers of the Iraqi forces.

6 May Communique

LD061346 Tehran IRNA in English 1325 GMT 6 May 85

[Text] Tehran, May 6, IRNA — Iran's Muslim combatants Sunday destroyed five Iraqi bunkers and two vehicles in the Arvand River front in the south while keeping the area under full control, said the Joint Military Command Communique today.

The combatants in the northern front opened fire on parts of Iraqi positions and halted the movement of their vehicles in Band and Chuman areas. They also dispatched reconnaissance and combat patrols to keep the enemy movements under observation, the communique said.

In the central fronts of Bakhtaran and Ilam, the Islamic combatants killed or wounded five Iraqi soldiers, destroyed 3 bunkers, and damaged a number of vehicles.

Iraqi patrols in the area were forced to flee, while Iran's combatants kept full control of their positions and held enemy movements under control.

Kuwaiti Government Deports Iranian Workers

GF041610 Bushehr Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 4 May 85

[Text] In a continuation of its acts of hostility against the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Kuwaiti Government deported another group of 64 Iranians during the last few days. These Iranians were residents of Kuwait. The deportees who travelled by several motor launches to the Iranian coast arrived in Bushehr, Hendijan, and Daylum. They were accommodated in the Kuwaiti deportees camp at Bushehr. It may be added that the property of these deportees was confiscated by the Kuwaiti Government and after a detention of a few days in Kuwait they were deported.

KEYHAN AL-'ARABI Raps Kuwaiti Government, Press

GF041336 Tehran KEYHAN AL-'ARABI in Arabic 21 Apr 85 London Weekly Edition p 12

[Article from the column "A Pause" entitled: "The Kuwaiti Government Fights Islam"]

[Text] However much the Kuwaiti press claims to have a free will it remains a captive of the regime, and it cannot deviate too far from the objectives and directives of the Kuwaiti regime. Indeed, we would not be exaggerating when we say that the Kuwaiti papers indirectly express the stands and views of the tribal authority on world and regional issues. Therefore, we believe that all the abuse heaped by the Kuwaiti press on Islam and its state is at the instigation of the ruling amir, his family, and his henchmen. Thus the Kuwaiti Government has revealed its flagrant hostility to the book of God and to the tradition of His Prophet, and is working very hard to strike at the contemporary Islamic awakening.

The Kuwaiti papers are adopting a similar stand to each other on the Islamic Revolution in Iran. Indeed, the terms these papers use in attacking the blessed revolution are similar. All this means that it is the Kuwaiti Government that dictates to the Kuwaiti press what to write and publish in the way of rancorous calumnies against Islam and the revolution and its leader, the imam. We do not believe that the Kuwaiti Government is incapable of issuing its orders to these paid newspapers and asks them to adopt a neutral stand on the Iraqi-Iranian war.

It is worth noting that reports say that the Kuwaiti Ministry of Information has issued instructions to the Kuwaiti papers to publish the news of the war as given by Iraqi officials!

We stress to the Kuwaiti Government that such impudent nonsense against Islam and its state will have negative consequences for the Kuwaiti Government, consequences that will be clearly seen in the near future.

Radio Nejat-e Iran on Khamene'i's Sister in Iraq

GF032000 (Clandestine) Radio Nejat-e Iran in Persian 1630 GMT 3 May 85

[Text] Badriyeh Khamene'i, sister of 'Ali Khamene'i, the president of the Islamic Republic of Iran, and wife of Sheykh 'Ali-Tehrani, has fled Iran and joined her husband in Baghdad. The news that Badriyeh Khamene'i has given in Baghdad relates to the displeasure of the people of Iran on the fruitless war against Iraq which is escalating every minute. This displeasure is evinced by the people in open demonstrations in the streets of Tehran.

The sister of 'Ali Khamene'i, who before she fled lived in Mashhad, told correspondents in Baghdad that last week the mace-bearing Hezbollahis of Khomeyni attacked the residence of Ayatollah Hassan Tabataba'i-Qomi and detained a number of his relatives and friends after having beaten them.

Badriyeh Khamene'i added that the Hezbollahis cut electrical power and telephone lines to the residence of Ayatollah Qomi and would not allow anyone get close to the house. This angered the people of Mashhad. Prior to this incident, the Hezbollahis had attacked the residence of Ayatollah Tabataba'i-Qomi and had insulted him because he is against the war and had several times both verbally and in written statements showed his opposition to the Iran-Iraq war. Even now the spouse of Ayatollah Qomi is under seige.

It must be said that the flight of Badriyeh Khamene'i has taken place when the term her brother's term of office as president comes to an end in the month of Mehr [23 September to 22 October]. This flight and the words of the sister of 'Ali Khamene'i may directly affect the regime and its election of a president of the mullahs, due to be held next summer. Some informed sources and observers believe that it is quite possible that during the next elections Musavi-Kho'iniha, who was in charge of the sinister hostage-taking operation by rogues and bad character at the U.S. Embassy may be appointed to succeed Khamene'i. Others believe that 'Ali Akbar Velayati, the minister of foreign affairs, might get his hands on the post. However, all this depends on the views of Ruhollah Khomeyni.

Free Voice of Iran Report

GF041842 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 4 May 85

[Excerpt] There is a rumor circulating in Tehran that those competing with 'Ali Khamene'i have checkmated him in the political chess game in Iran by helping his sister, nieces and nephews escape the country.

Our information sources report that the hostage-taker Musavi-Kho'iniha has put himself up as a candidate for the next presidential elections.

Free Voice of Iran on Continuing Demonstrations

GF041850 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 4 May 85

[Excerpt] The people of Iran continued their antiregime demonstrations this week. These demonstrations also reflected the opposition to the regime's policy to continue the war. The mullahs confessed that such demonstrations have taken place. According to a report by our correspondent, 3 days ago groups of people in the capital gathered on Apadana Avenue and demonstrated against the regime and the continuation of the war. The Guards immediately rushed to the scene, planning to disperse the crowd but they were faced with popular reaction and the Tehrani demonstrators managed to kill four guards and continue their demonstration.